ject perspective/specifications become inescapable having inherent effect on project cost escalation. Nevertheless, the project and financial commitments are closely monitored by the Steering Committee and are frequent interaction between representatives of Services and the HAL.

Escalation in the cost of AJT

2379. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the AJT whose cost was Rs. 10.12 crores in 1980 now costs about Rs. 75 crores a piece; and

(b) if so, the justification for the delay in sanctioning the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) The final cost of the aircraft is not yet known as commercial negotiations with the two shortlisted vendors have not been completed. The requirement of AJT for IAF has been structured in the 9th Plan.

Victimisation and atrocities against women

2380. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names, addresses alongwith complete details of women organisations which are in the forefront to fight victimisation and atrocities against women;

(b) whether such atrocities have registered a marked increase over the last two years, especially in metropolitan areas, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective step taken by Government to ensure that atrocities and victimisation against women is curbed, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Available information on the incidents of crime against women during 1995 and 1996 along with the data in respect of four metropolitan cities is given in the statement (*See* below).

(c) The registration, investigation detection and prevention of crime against women is the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Government of India has initiated a number of measures to check such crime. Apart from bringing out a number of legislations and carrying out legislative changes in the relevant Act, instructions/guidelines have been issued from time to time to the State Governments/UT Administrations to effectively enforce legislation relating to crime against women. Besides, the media is being used to project women in positive terms. A legal literacy manual has also been brought out with the aim of educating women about laws concerning their basic rights.